IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Rama Divakaruni, et al. Examiner: Unassigned

Serial No: Unassigned Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: Herewith Docket: FIS920000337US3 (14114Z)

For: TTO NITRIDE LINER FOR Dated: February 10, 2004

IMPROVED COLLAR PROTECTION

AND TTO RELIABILITY

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Applicants wish to make of record the ten (10) references listed in the attached

Form PTO-1449.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL

Express Mail Mailing Label Number: EV 213902004 US Date of Deposit: February 10, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express Mail Post Office to Addressee service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: February 10, 2004

William C. Roch

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R.§1.98(d) copies of the above-listed references are not provided, as the references were previously submitted to the Examiner in connection with the parent case, Serial Number 09/832,605 filed April 11, 2001 with the exception of Reference Nos. 6,437,381 and 5-175424 are not being submitted since it was cited to applicants' previous application.

Consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is respectfully requested, since the art provided may be material to the examination of the present application as filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

Wellion C Rock

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WCR:jf

Application Number Docket Number (Optional) 14114Z (FIS920000337US3) Unassigned INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION Applicant(s) (Use several sheets if necessary) Rama Divakaruni, et al. **Group Art Unit** Filing Date Unassigned Herewith U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS SUBCLASS FILING DATE DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE NAME CLASS REF *EXAMINER IF APPROPRIATE INITIAL 11/03/98 David V. Horak, et al. 5,831,301 08/17/99 Rajesh Rengarajan, et al. 5,940,717 08/31/99 5,945,704 Martin Schrems, et al. Martin Schrems, et al. 6,018,174 01/25/00 05/23/00 6,066,527 Stephen Kudelka, et al. 6,063,657 Gary B. Bronner, et al. 05/16/00 6,080,618 Wolfgang Bergner, et al. 06/27/00 6,144,054 11/07/00 Farid Agahi, et al. 6,437,381 08/2002 Gruening, et al. FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS TRANSLATION SUBCLASS COUNTRY CLASS REF DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE NO YES 07-1993 Japan 5-175424

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

EXAMINER